(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to encourage the Rural Industries; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries sector consists essentially of conventional (traditional) rural cottage industries. Government have been taking steps from time to time for the promotion and development of rural and cottage industries with positive results. Assistance provided to this sector consists of margin money assistance under Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), training technological and marketing support. In order to further strengthen this sector in the country, the Government on 14.05.2001 announced 'Khadi Package'. The package mainly consists of creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development, focus on core areas and provision of additional working capital etc.

As a result , village industries in the Country have been registering growth in production and employment.

(c) Does not arise.

Rural industries established by KVIC in H.P.

†1181. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rural Industries established by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in villages of Himachal Pradesh and the number of people working in them;

(b) the number of registered Rural Industries/Institutions;

(c) the present status of these industries alongwith the number of industries earning profit and those running in loss;

(d) whether there is any scheme for the assistance to the industries which are running in loss; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) As on 31.03.2003, a total number of 1491 Projects/Rural Industries have been financed, by the KVIC and 0.70 lakhs jobs have been created under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) As on 31.03.2003, the KVIC under the REGP has financed 1491 rural industries projects in Himachal Pradesh. As on 31.03.2003, there were 14 diretly aided Khadi institutinos and 9 village/rural industries institutions under the fold of the KVIC in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) to (e) The information on the present condition of these units including their profit/loss is not maintained centrally. Although the Government does not have a scheme of assistance to the loss making units, but, the Government on 14.05.2001 has announced a package for the promotion and development of Village Industries (VI). The package *inter-alia* consists of creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc. The package is under different phases of implementation.

Agriculture based industries

†1182. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified Agriculture based Industries being run in Rural Areas in different States;

(b) if so, the names of the Major Industries being run in the rural areas, State-wise;

(c) the average percentage of the total persons working in each industry; and

(d) the assessment of per capita income in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.